

Flathead County Fair Commission

March 12, 2009

The Flathead County Fair Commission met in session March 12th 2009.

PRESENT: Chairman Butch Woolard, Vice Chairman Terry Fosbery; Commission Members: Ted Dykstra, Susan Munsinger, Paul Atkinson; Fair Manager Jay Scott.

Guests: Terry DeVries of Kettle Corn and Chance Barrett of Flathead Builders Association

Chairman Burch Woolard called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Minutes from the December meeting were discussed. Munsinger moved to approve the minutes as read; Atkinson seconded the motion.

Public Comments:

No Public Comments

Guests:

Terry De Vries with Kettle Corn asked for a 10X10 space to sell Kettle Corn at the 2009 fair. De Vries stated that he doesn't need power, water or sewer. Munsinger asked if he was for profit. De Vries stated he is for profit.

Woolard asked if anyone had questions. Scott said the board needs to decide what % the for profits would be required to pay and where they would be placed. Dykstra moved to table and make policy for the for profit food vendors. Atkinson seconded the motion. De Vries was told the Fair Board would have an answer for him at the next meeting.

Chance Barrett of Flathead Builder Association wanted to share FBA feelings on their 2009 show. Barrett feels that this year LHC is having an affect on their show. Barrett explained that Flathead Builders Assoc. show is down by 40% this year. Barrett stated that FBA has been a vendor at the Flathead County Fair Grounds for 8 years. Barrett went on to explain that LHC wanted to have a seminar now they have changed to a spring home type show and are in competition with FBA and this effects both shows. Barrett would like a non competition clause up to a full year, but would consider 3 months before and after. Woolard asked to take under advisement and will get back to them. He asked if they want the 6 months for free. Barrett said that they did want this protection for free. Fosbery thinks we should support those that support us. Dykstra feels a person can't stop competition. Scott asked what if both compete in having the same type of vendors, where do we micro manage and where do we stop. It was decided not to take any deposits on buildings until next meeting; the fair board would like to set some kind of policy on non competition clause. Fosbery moved to have 30 days before and after policy for like events to be revised by the fair commission. Scott will check with county attorney for legal input. Dykstra seconded the motion.

Commission Report

Atkinson reported that he has all of his paper report in Baucus office for the new building.

Dykstra reported on reviewing the information on online ticketing and he feels we need to follow thru.

Munsinger didn't have anything to report on.

Fosbery reported on the Chicks N Chaps program and thinks we should support the Chicks N Chaps program and the tough enough to wear pink, they are at all major rodeos. Fosbery stated that all the money stays in the local area and is used for breast cancer issues. Missoula had 150 people last year to come to the rodeo to meet the cowboys. Fosbery said they need arena time and an area like a VIP section. Fosbery told the commission that Missoula fair/rodeo committee did nothing except some seating, Fosbery said that the ladies get in free and their families pay for their rodeo tickets. The fair would get some added revenue and some good will for a good event. Fosbery thinks they will need some 50-60 seats and though that maybe they could use the band stand this year for their VIP seating.

Dykstra moved to hold a Chicks N Chap's Friday night.

Fosbery seconded the motion.

Woolard reported on working with commissioners and told the commission that the fair office will have a person from the treasure office transfer over and help in the fair office until the middle of Sept. Woolard also reported that Ann Clark is doing the premium book again this year and the commissioners said that Clark can work 30 days on this.

Old Business

Race horse trainers: Scott will redo last year's contract. The contract will have an increased amount guaranteed. This year \$1200 is the min. and \$65.00 a stall which ever is greater, no personal locks, vacated for fair and cannot remove any stall doors. The fair grounds use takes precedence over the race horse trainers.

New Business

For profit food concessions will pay 10% more than non profit food concessions.

Hog wrestling will be on the straight away of the race track.

Manager's Report

Scott gave the commission a copy of this year budget and went over all expenditures and answered any question they had. He said he would like to do this as each meeting. Scott reported on the calendar of events for this month and asked if the commission could make a showing at some of the events. Scott said that the fair office is getting several calls per week on for profit food concessions for fair time; this is getting to be a problem, mostly because there is no room for more water, sewer, or electricity hookups. The commission held some general discussion on fire works; it is to be decided at the next meeting if we are going to have fire works this year. Scott handed out some forms for his annual review.

Atkinson moved to adjourn the meeting; Dykstra seconded. The motion was approved and the meeting adjourned at 9:30p.m.

Chairman

Secretary/Manager